

DISCIPLESHIP RESOURCES

# DISCUSSION GUIDES

EVERY MONDAY

## Discussion Guide Sunday Sermon 5.17.26



### Do Not Be Deceived

This guide is designed to help your family or group take what was taught on Sunday and move from simply hearing the information to applying it in ways that build up and encourage one another. Feel free to adjust the depth and number of questions based on your time and the size of your group.

### Access the Sermon on the Website & App:

[Click Here](#)

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BAPTIST CHURCH

### How to Access the OBC App?

- 1 Open your App Store
- 2 Search "Olivet Baptist"
- 3 Download the App
- 4 Open & Create an Account
- 5 Access all of our resources!

The graphic also features a smartphone mockup displaying the app's interface. The screen shows the time 9:28, signal strength, Wi-Fi, and battery icons at the top. Below the status bar, there is a search bar with the text "OBC". The main content area displays a "Sunday Mornings" section with a church building image and the text "Let us all work to be working together!". Below that is a "PODCAST FEEDBACK FORM" section with a microphone icon and the text "Podcast Feedback Form". At the bottom of the screen, there is a navigation bar with icons for Home, Search, Home, Home, and Home.

## Opening Prayer & Icebreaker

**Icebreaker Question:** What's one piece of advice you've received that sounded good at the time but turned out to be misleading?

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## Sermon Overview

This message explores six major lies that Satan uses to deceive believers, particularly as they navigate life transitions. The enemy's goal is deception—to get us to waste our lives chasing meaningless things rather than living abundantly in Christ.

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## Key Scripture References

- John 8:44 - Satan as the father of lies
  - 2 Corinthians 11:13-14 - Satan disguises himself as an angel of light
  - 1 Timothy 4:1-2 - Warning about deceiving spirits in the last days
  - 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 - God's strength made perfect in weakness
  - 1 Timothy 6:6-10 - The danger of desiring wealth
  - Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived; you reap what you sow
  - Ecclesiastes 2:10-11 - Chasing after the next thing is vanity
  - 1 Corinthians 15:33 - Evil company corrupts good habits
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## The Six Lies Discussed

### 1. "You Got This"

**The Truth:** God's strength is made perfect in our weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9)

### 2. "Busyness Equals Productivity"

**The Truth:** Jesus offers rest, not stress (Matthew 11:28)

### 3. "It's Good to Chase Wealth"

**The Truth:** You cannot serve both God and money (Matthew 6:24)

### 4. "Sin Isn't a Big Deal"

**The Truth:** Sin leads to destruction, but grace is bigger (Romans 6:1-2)

## 5. "The Next Phase of Life Will Complete You"

**The Truth:** Only Christ can fulfill you; redeem the time you have now (Ephesians 5:16)

## 6. "You're Not Influenced by Your Surroundings"

**The Truth:** Evil company corrupts good habits (1 Corinthians 15:33)

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## Discussion Questions

### Understanding the Enemy

1. How does understanding Satan as a "deceiver" rather than just "evil" change the way you approach spiritual warfare?
2. Why do you think the phrase "do not be deceived" appears at least a dozen times in the New Testament? What does this tell us about our vulnerability?

### Personal Reflection

3. Which of the six lies resonates most with you personally? Why?
4. The sermon states: "Stress is a warning sign that you're trying to control too much instead of trusting in God." How does this statement challenge your current view of stress?

### Diving Deeper

5. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. Why is it so difficult for us to boast in our weaknesses rather than our strengths? How does our culture work against this biblical principle?
6. Discuss the statement: "If you really understand the grace of God, it's going to lead you away from sin, not towards it." How have you seen this principle at work in your own life?

### Application-Focused

7. The sermon mentions that we can be "too busy to do the things that God wants us to do." Evaluate your current schedule—are there areas where busyness is crowding out communion with God?
8. How have you seen the lie "the next phase will complete you" play out in your life or in others' lives? What was the result?

### Community & Influence

9. Read 1 Corinthians 15:33. Who are the five people you spend the most time with? How are they influencing your walk with Christ?

10. How can we be "in the world" sharing the gospel without being "of the world" and influenced by it?
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## Key Takeaways

1. **Satan's primary weapon is deception, not force.** He disguises himself as an angel of light and makes evil look appealing.
  2. **Our strength is found in acknowledging our weakness.** Saying "I don't have this" is a statement of humility that opens the door to God's grace.
  3. **Busyness is not a badge of honor.** If you're too busy for God's priorities (prayer, Scripture, fellowship), you're simply too busy.
  4. **Money is neutral, but the love of it is deadly.** Our ultimate god has become comfort, which requires wealth to maintain.
  5. **Sin is always a big deal.** The consequences may not be immediate, but you will reap what you sow.
  6. **No person, phase, or possession can fulfill you.** Only Christ offers abundant life.
  7. **You are the sum of the five people you spend the most time with.** Choose your close relationships wisely.
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## Practical Applications

### This Week's Challenge

Choose ONE of the following to focus on this week:

#### Option 1: Weakness Inventory

- Write down three areas where you've been saying "I got this" instead of depending on God
- Pray specifically about surrendering these areas to God's strength
- Share your struggle with one trusted believer for accountability

### **Option 2: Schedule Audit**

- Review your calendar for the past two weeks
- Highlight time spent on: prayer, Scripture reading, Christian fellowship
- Identify one "busy" activity to eliminate or reduce to make room for God's priorities

### **Option 3: Money & Motives**

- Pray this uncomfortable prayer: "God, if you don't want us to have [specific thing], we hold it with open hands"
- Evaluate whether your career/financial goals are driven by comfort or calling
- Consider one way to use your resources for kingdom purposes this month

### **Option 4: Sin Assessment**

- Identify one area where you've minimized sin in your life
- Confess it to God and to a trusted believer (James 5:16)
- Put practical boundaries in place to protect against that sin

### **Option 5: Relationship Evaluation**

- List your five closest friends
- Honestly assess: Are they making you more like Christ or more like the world?
- Initiate one deeper, spiritual conversation with a believer this week
- Consider if there are relationships that need healthy boundaries

### **Option 6: Present Moment Focus**

- Write down what phase of life you're constantly looking toward
- List three blessings/opportunities in your CURRENT season
- Thank God daily for where He has you RIGHT NOW

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## **Accountability Questions**

1. What specific lie this sermon lists is God convicting you about?
  2. What is one concrete step you'll take this week to combat that lie with truth?
  3. Who will you ask to check in with you about this next week?
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## Closing Reflection

**Quote to Remember:** "If we're too busy to do the things that God wants us to do, then guess what? We're too busy."

**Final Thought:** The enemy wants you to reach the end of your life and wonder, "Was that really it?" Don't waste your life believing his lies. God cannot lie, and He offers abundant life through Jesus Christ alone.

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## Closing Prayer Points

- Pray for discernment to recognize the enemy's lies
  - Ask God to reveal areas where you've been deceived
  - Pray for strength to live in God's grace rather than your own strength
  - Ask for wisdom in choosing relationships and influences
  - Pray for a deeper hunger for God than for the things of this world
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## For Next Week

**Come prepared to share:**

- One way you applied this week's challenge
- One truth from Scripture that helped you combat a lie
- One area where you're still struggling and need group support